

Message Text

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44

ACTION MMS-04

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9625

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, OGEN, DA

SUBJECT: OPRED - PROPOSED DEA STAFFING IN DENMARK FOR FY 1975

REF: STATE 187938

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT SOUNDED DANES ON POSSIBLE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) PRESENCE HERE, OUR CONTACTS WITH THEM ON ALL ASPECTS OF NARCOTICS CONTROL PROBLEM, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT, HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE, FRUITFUL, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, LOW-KEY. THEREFORE, WE ESTIMATE THAT SOUNDINGS ON A DEA PRESENCE HERE, WHICH WE WOULD WISH TO DIRECT TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AMONG OTHERS, WOULD RECEIVE POSITIVE RESPONSE ONLY IF (A) IT WERE MODEST, (B) OF A LOW-KEY NATURE SIMILAR TO OUR DEALINGS HERETOFORE, AND (C) CLEARLY RELATED TO A NEED PERCEIVED BY BOTH THE DANISH AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. THE GENERAL STATE OF DANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH NOW RECOVERED FROM NADIR OF 1972, WOULD REQUIRE THAT DEA IN DENMARK COORDINATE ITS WORK WITH OUR ASSESSMENTS AND GUIDANCE ON CONTINUING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE POLITICAL SITUATION. IT WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY FOR DEA TO TAKE SPECIAL ACCOUNT OF DANISH POLICE SENSITIVITIES TO POLITICAL ATTACKS, EMANATING CHIEFLY FROM THE LEFT, ON GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT. FINALLY, ANY PRESENCE IN COPENHAGEN SHOULD BE RELATED TO SCANDINAVIAN RESPONSIBILITIES, WITH ANY DEA PERSONNEL ULTIMATELY ASSIGNED HERE WORKING WITH NORWEGIAN, SWEDISH, AND FINNISH NARCOTICS POLICE. THIS WOULD, OF COURSE, REQUIRE COMMENT FROM EMBASSIES IN THESE COUNTRIES, WHICH WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT NOW SEEK.

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2. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (COPENHAGEN 0055, JANUARY 11, 1973), SINCE

LATE 1972, WHEN FRENCH LABORATORIES, WERE HARD HIT, WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO HOLD THE SPECTER OF A POSSIBLE HEROIN LABORATORY IN DENMARK BEFORE THE EYES OF KEY DANISH OFFICIALS, INCLUDING POLICE. PARA. 3 OF STATE 187938 MENTIONS THAT SUSPICIONS OF HEROIN LAB, TOGETHER WITH INCREASED TRAFFICKING OF MORPHINE BASE BY CHINESE AND TURKISH GUEST WORKERS, SEEMS TO ESTABLISH DESIRABILITY OF THREE-PERSON DEA OPERATION HERE. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT INCREASING OPIATE TRAFFICKING IS OCCURRING, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER THESE SUSPICIONS ARE BASED ON ORIGINAL INPUTS OF HARD INFORMATION OR WHETHER THEY ARE ECHOES OF OUR ALERTING WORK NOTED ABOVE. WE WOULD WANT TO KNOW IF HARD INFORMATION ON A HEROIN LAB ACTUALLY EXISTS BEFORE COMMENTING SPECIFICALLY, AND WE WOULD ONLY WANT TO APPROACH THE DANES ON THE BASIS OF SUCH HARD INFORMATION. CAN THE DEPARTMENT ENLIGHTEN US ON THIS KEY POINT?

3. UNFAMILIARITY WITH DEA ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS MAKE DIFFICULT A DEFINITIVE EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT ON OUR OPERATION. KEY QUESTION IS WHETHER DEA REQUIRES OFFICE SPACE IN CHANCERY OR WILL LEASE OUTSIDE OFFICES. IF SUBSTANTIVE REQUIREMENT JUSTIFIES DEA PRESENCE IN DENMARK, WE WOULD WANT TO KNOW PRECISE DEFINITION OF SUPPORT SERVICES TO BE EXTENDED IN EITHER OF THESE TWO CASES PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF DEA PERSONNEL.

DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, DUE TO SCARCE PERSONNEL RESOURCES, OUR ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION HAS BEEN CUTTING BACK MARGINAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO CONCENTRATE ON AREAS WHERE IT CAN MAKE MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION TO MISSION OPERATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, DEA WOULD BE EXPECTED TO TAKE CARE OF ITS OWN TRAVEL SERVICES, BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL PLANNING, RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS SERVICE, AND OFFICE BUILDING SERVICE IF OUTSIDE OFFICE SPACE OPTION WERE SELECTED OVER CHANCERY LOCATIONS. IF CHANCERY LOCATION WERE SELECTED, DEA MAY EXPECT TO PAY SUBSTANTIAL OFFICE RECONFIGURATION COSTS.

4. WE ARE NOT PERSUADED, BY INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE, WHY REQUIREMENT IS FOR TWO DEA OFFICERS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON WHY ONE OFFICER WOULD NOT SUFFICE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF CONSIDERATIONS IN PARA. 1 ABOVE AS WELL AS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STRINGENCIES INDICATED IN PARA. 3. DEA SHOULD ALSO EXPECT

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TO PLACE ITS SECRETARY IN JOINT SECRETARIAL POOL, TO WHICH DEVICE WE HAVE TURNED TO ENSURE MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF OUR SCARCE RESOURCES.

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